

Annual Report

2006–2007

Information • Entertainment • Education



Introduction

San Bernardino County covers 20,160 square miles, 90% of it desert and the rest comprised of the San Bernardino Valley and several mountain ranges. County population exceeds 1.7 million, and the area is considered one of the fastest growing counties in the state. The county has a diverse population that is 59% white, 39% Hispanic, 9% black, 5% Asian and 2% Native American.¹ This past year there were over 3.3 million patron visits to our branches.

Physical visits are only part of the story. Thanks to the efforts of the library's branch management and administration, many more patrons have been able to take advantage of online resources and other library offerings. Live online tutoring (in both English and Spanish), books on tape and e-books on tape, CDs and DVDs, electronic databases that include encyclopedias, nature and science facts, small business resources, health and wellness, legal forms, even car repair and forums that compare both sides of controversial issues—every year more library patrons find that their county library is an easy-to-access and free source for information, education and entertainment.

The county library serves its population with 30 branch libraries—four of which are joint-use facilities located in high schools—and two bookmobiles. In a joint-use high school program, the library is open only to students during the school day (until 3 p.m.) and then opens to the public from 3 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and on Saturday from 9 to 5. The library's central administration facility is located in downtown San Bernardino, behind the county administration building.

Highlights

Two New Branches and a Rededication

The system welcomed a new branch facility in Hesperia in October 2006. The 20,102 square foot building holds a collection of over 53,000 items and 66 public computers. There is a spacious community room that can be divided into three sections and a homey reading room with a grand fireplace and overstuffed chairs.

¹Population per 2000 census; ethnicity totals add up to more than 100% as people identify themselves in more than a single ethnic category.



▲ Congressman Jerry Lewis and branch manager Ann Marie Wentworth enjoy a laugh while viewing the children's mural in the new Hesperia library (top).

In November, the county library opened a new joint-use facility at Summit High School in Fontana. Three branches now serve the city of Fontana. In June the Joshua Tree branch got a remodel and rededication, with new carpets and a fresh coat of paint. Barely 2,000 square feet in size, the Joshua Tree branch provides an essential fill-in between larger facilities in Twenty-Nine Palms and Yucca Valley.

More New Branches on the Way

Additional new branches will be opening during the 2007-08 fiscal year, starting with Mentone in August. This 7,400 square foot Senior Center and Library will replace a cramped rental that has been one of the smallest branches in the system.

Then in the spring of 2008 things will really heat up, with new branches



▲ Hesperia's self-check with RFID tags makes check out faster & easier.

Our Mission

The San Bernardino County Library is the community's resource for access to information to promote knowledge, education, lifelong learning, leisure and cultural enrichment for the people of the County of San Bernardino.



▲ Above, Summit High School branch opens in Fontana. The high school operates the library during school hours, then the county takes over at 3 in the afternoon and on Saturdays. This is our second joint-use facility in Fontana, the other being at Kaiser High School.

The San Bernardino County Library operates two other joint-use facilities, at Carter High School in Rialto (photo a) and Serrano High School in Phelan (b).



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▲ (Above, from top): (c) Lake Arrowhead teen/young adult "Murder Mystery" event; (d) Barstow children attending story-time; (e) Joshua Tree patrons at the branch's rededication; and (f) FOL volunteers Dennis Alcorn and Jay Eggelbeen at the annual Route 66 Rendezvous fundraiser, which raised over \$10,000 for library materials this year.

Volunteer Facts & Figures 2006-2007

Number of volunteers	2,200
Includes branch volunteers, Friends of the Library members & literacy volunteers	
Hours donated	92,000
estimated worth of hours: @ \$7.50/hr	\$690,000
(California minimum wage, not including fringe benefits)	
Funds raised	\$498,000
Total cash and in-kind donation to SBCL	\$1,180,000

▲ Running Springs teen volunteer Emily Hill is honored by 3rd district Supervisor Dennis Hansberger (left), County Librarian Ed Kieczkowski (back), and branch manager Judy Sbardellati.



ON THE COVER (clockwise from top left): Hesperia Branch rendering; topping out ceremony beam at Fontana; Mentone architect's rendering; Joshua Tree Friends of the Library fund-raiser; Hesperia patrons open their new branch; Fontana construction aerial view; and (center) "Read America" poster for 29 Palms.

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scheduled to open for Fontana and Highland, and an expansion for Loma Linda that will more than double its present size.

Fontana's Lewis Library and Technology Center will be a two-storey, 90,000+ square-foot facility that will house over 100,000 items, have 225 computers and will include offices for the City of Fontana.

The Sam J. Racadio Library and Environmental Learning Center in Highland will be over 30,000 square feet. This is a "green" building with a prestigious Gold rating from the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

San Bernardino County Library

Adelanto
Apple Valley
Barstow
Big Bear
Bloomington
Carter H.S.
Chino
Chino Hills
Crestline
Fontana

Grand Terrace
Hesperia
Highland
Joshua Tree
Kaiser H.S.
Lake Arrowhead
Loma Linda
Lucerne Valley
Mentone
Montclair

Needles
Rialto
Running Springs
Serrano H.S.
Summit H.S.
Trona
Twenty-nine Palms
Wrightwood
Yucaipa
Yucca Valley

(LEED) organization, a non-profit group founded by the U.S. Green Building Council.



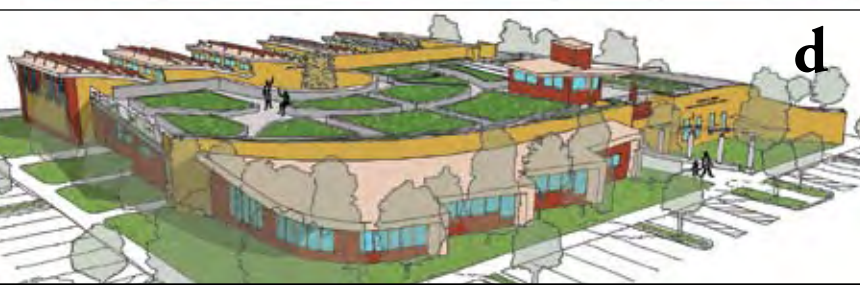
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Library Facts & Figures

2006-2007

EXPENDITURES

Salaries	\$ 9,860,518
Services & Supplies	3,785,526
Books & Other Materials	1,936,793
Equipment	873,000
Carry Over	920,821

LIBRARY SERVICE STATISTICS

Materials in Circulation	2,518,300
Library Visitors	3,373,871
Computer Sessions	614,303

◀ At left, from top to bottom: (a) Mentone Senior Center and Library; (b) Crestline Branch Library; (c) Loma Linda Branch Library; (d) Highland Sam J. Racadio Library and Environmental Learning Center; (e) Fontana Lewis Library and Technology Center.



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